

***Given that* access to safe, affordable, nutritious food is a basic human right of individuals and communities, and connects us to our families, our cultures, and our traditions;**

***And that* community food security is a comprehensive approach that includes all members of the food system, from producers to consumers, and promotes regional food self-reliance;**

***And that* having a food secure community is the foundation of population health, social justice, community-based economic development and a sustainable environment;**

***Therefore,* the Sudbury Food Connections Network, including The City of Greater Sudbury, The Social Planning Council of Sudbury, and the Sudbury & District Health Unit, will work towards the development and implementation of a community food security mandate that supports research, policies and programs that will endorse:**

## **1) Population Health and Wellness**

- Individual and household food security as a determinant of health;
- Adequate income, employment, housing, and transportation policies that ensure food accessibility and availability to all citizens; and
- Nutritional education and healthy food choices in schools, businesses and public places.

## **2) Community Development**

- An annual community food security report card;
- Food self-reliance through community-based food programs, such as community gardens, fresh food box programs and collective kitchens;
- Multi-cultural food festivals and cultural events;
- A community emergency food preparedness plan; and
- The involvement of the community in developing food security solutions.

## **3) Investment in the Local Food System**

- A regionally-based and community-driven food system;
- The viability of agricultural and rural communities;
- The development of regional value-added agricultural production, food processing and distribution systems; and
- The promotion of regional food products at farmer's markets, farm-gate sales, and local food outlets.

## **4) The Development of a Sustainable Food System**

- Public and institutional education on the interdependence between the food system and a sustainable environment;
- Scientifically proven best management agricultural practices and regional crop varieties;
- The reduction of persistent toxic chemicals that can accumulate within the food chain;
- The development and implementation of renewable technologies in the expansion of the regional food system;
- Sustainable waste management practices; and
- Support for initiatives that educate on the loss of bio-diversity, resource depletion, and climate change, and that raise the awareness of global environmental issues.